The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and official interpretations of matters of general interest to the labor movement, legislative, judicial, industrial fields, and contains other information of interest to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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YOUR UNION LAB CARDS AND BUTTONS INSURE YOUR JOBS

WHOLE NO. 1861 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1946 GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 36, NO. 50

LABOR, USA

The two-hundred-third of the American Federationist of the air, broadcast on the "Labor, USA" program over the American Broadcasting Company network, included the following outstanding feature articles to supplement the news:

A Court Victory for Labor

By HENRY KAISER
Associate Counsel for the AFL

Labor won a signal victory in the courts this week over antilabor legislation—a victory which the next Congress would do well to bear in mind when it begins consideration in January of the hundreds of fantastic proposals designed to cripple the labor movement.

When Federal Judge La Buy held that the Lea Act was unconstitutional, his decision not only vindicated the position of the American Federation of Musicians and the 200,000 members of that union, but it also served notice on Congress that the basic rights of free American workers cannot be invaded and cannot be transgressed.

The principles laid down in this court decision are so important and have received so little public attention that I would like to analyze them briefly in nonlegalistic language.

The Lea Act attempted to make it a crime to hire more musicians than the employer thought he needed. As the Judge pointed out, it would be perfectly legal under the law to employ fifty excess musicians if the employer agreed to it. But any official of the union would be guilty of a crime if he persisted in asking, by peaceful and legitimate means, for even a single job more than the employer considered necessary. Thus the decision as to whether the crime had been committed or not would rest entirely with one party to a dispute.

This is a clear violation of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, the court said. "Life and liberty," the Judge ruled, "may not be imperilled by, or be subject to, such a frail and uncertain device as one man's opinion against another's."

That sentence answers the entire campaign, now in full stride, for antilabor legislation. When a union and an employer differ, the proper approach is not to seek agreement through collective bargaining, rather than to make a law making it a crime for the union to stand firm for the welfare of the workers.

Judge La Buy full upheld labor's right to strike and picket peacefully, which the Lea Act tried to curb. He made ample judicial precedents in support of his opinion that the right to strike is guaranteed by the Thirteenth Amendment which forbids involuntary servitude and that right to picket peacefully is part and parcel of the American citizen's freedom of speech, guaranteed by the First Amendment.

His decision made the air of clean, cool air into the heated and foul atmosphere created by the enemies of labor in an attempt to poison the public's mind against American trade unions.

A Guaranteed Annual Wage

By BORIS SHISHKIN
AFL Economist

This week an important government study of guaranteed wages was made public in Washington. Headed by Murray W. Latimer, a small staff of experts, working in close cooperation with labor and management, searched for the answers to these questions:

What has been the experience with guaranteed wage plans in the past? Is their establishment desirable in the future? Will they achieve economies for employers by improving labor relations, reducing turnover of workers, assuring full utilization of the plant and attaining better productivity? Will the operation of these plans, above all, give workers a larger measure of economic security by eliminating loss of income beyond their control?

The report does not pretend to write the ticket for anybody. All it does is to make available to management and to labor information which would help both to consider the problem intelligently.

This year 196 guaranteed wage plans were in operation, covering 70,000 workers. Almost all of them underwrote full pay for the guaranteed period, for two-thirds of them, the guarantee ran for a full year.

The mortality rate of the existing plans has been low. Yet, looking ahead, the study points out that in situations where production and employment are subject to wide fluctuations, a wage guarantee may not be feasible. Much depends on whether production and work requirements can be regularized. Experience of the few plans shown that, if properly administered, even where the cost of the guarantee would average less than 6 percent of the annual payroll.

According to the Latimer report, a guaranteed wage is not a panacea for the insecurity of our economic system; it cannot itself eliminate the fluctuations in the system. Yet, it can help stabilize the economy through the stabilization of wage payments and consumer expenditures.

The report makes a novel proposal, which promises to become the subject of lively debate. It suggests that the guarantee of wages for labor now employed for whom work cannot be found be tailored to supplement such employee's unemployment insurance benefits. By paying only the difference between unemployment insurance and the amount of the guaranteed wage, the employer could reduce his cost of guaranteeing full wages, yet offer greater security of income to the worker.

To carry out this plan would require amendment of State unemployment compensation laws, making jobless workers eligible to receive at the same time unemployment benefits plus the supplementary guaranteed wage payments.

This and other recommendations of the Latimer Report are being closely studied by labor. It is the opinion of the AFL that the limited rise in the cost of living will doesn't the NAM say "higher" instead of high.

The legislative program adopted by the NAM convention doesn't inspire any confidence in its self-advertised concern for liberalism. Instead of advocating the outright repeal of the National Labor Relations Act, as it used to do, the NAM contents itself now with merely recommending that it be amended to death. Instead of demanding right out for the destruction of unions, the NAM urges legislation which would prohibit union security.

We do not wish to do the National Association of Manufacturers an injustice. Labor would welcome a sincerely liberal attitude by the nation's employers. But until the NAM produces more substantial evidence of its sincerity and liberalism, we are inclined to regard it as the same old reactionary program in a more modern disguise.

Civic and Labor Chiefs Join In Eulogizing Samuel Shore

New York City—Fifteen hundred persons attended funeral services for Samuel Shore, manager of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (AFL), in the auditorium of Local 89, ILGWU, on Manhattan's Tanenbaum Hall building here.

Several hundred, unable to get into the packed hall, heard the services in Union Square by loud speaker.

Many in the hall stood in the aisles throughout the 30-minute service. More than 400 wreaths decorated the stage and the sides of the auditorium.

Among the speakers who eulogized Mr. Shore were Mayor O'Dwyer, the local president of the ILGWU, Mitchell Schneider, representative of Governor Dewey, and officials of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, AFL.

Matthew Woll, vice president of the American Federation of Labor, and Meyer Lotf of the ILGWU.

Others were George J. Minster, industrial arbitrator of the undergarment industry; Alexander Kahn of The Jewish Daily Forward; John Childs, chairman of the Liberal party, and Stanley Isaacs, Manhattan borough president.

Mr. Shore was native in various civic and philanthropic causes, was a member of the board of directors of Freedom House, and of the American Jewish Committee, the National Negro Labor Committee, chairman of the Labor Division of the USO. He was founder in 1912 of the Undergarment and Negligee Workers Union, AFL, and headed until his death. One of the important affiliates of the ILGWU, this union consists of 18,000 members.

An earnest exponent of sound labor-management relations, Samuel Shore also guided the affairs of the undergarment organization that not a strike or even a work stoppage occurred in that industry since 1933.

Clague Warns New Machines Threaten to Displace Millions

Baltimore.—Illunt warning that technical mechanical advances in the next few years will see an employment market of millions was sounded here by Ewan Clague, director of the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics in an address before the American Public Welfare Association.

Some 1,000 to 2,000,000 agricultural workers will drop out in the next five or six years from the south, Clague said, because of the mechanization in the processing of cotton, sugar and rice, he said.

New advances in cutting tools, as yet hardly talked about, may produce "in equally dramatic example of increased output with reduced labor time," he added.

This should mean a widely increased unemployment insurance and extension of such insurance to agricultural workers, Clague said. "Social insurance is one of the most constructive systems I know of to make free enterprise work," he said.

Joseph Baldwin, director of the Lake County (Ind.) Public Welfare Department, urged the full acceptance of the present social security system. Salaries for case workers will have to be at least doubled, he said, if we are to give the general public the service from the "social engineering point" that is now "at the public health office or the public library."

The only current absences in welfare, he said, were obtained "by collective bargaining between labor and employers."

He said social work also needed an "improved setting" in the interests that it be conducted "in what the architect intended for dead storage or broom closets."

Increased Federal aid for child health and welfare administration was urged by Russell Bullard, director of Hull House, Chicago.

"Prevention of home rule has deprived many a child of an American education," he said.

He reviewed the history of social legislation in this country to support his contention that its advances have always followed depressions and suggested that it probably would take another great depression to revue this country to new advances.

He contended that a Federal Government which can and should reach into a home to draft a youth for the armed services also can and should aid and educate him and provide him with medical services.

Arthur J. Altmeyer, commissioner of the Social Security Administration, said he had been thinking "in the past few weeks more than in the years before that we have somehow failed to get across to the people in general the dynamic position and values of social welfare."

5,552 Backlog In Cases Before NLRB Is Called Threat to Industrial Peace

Washington, D. C.—Receipt of labor review petitions in the last three months, according to a report by the National Labor Relations Board, has built up a backlog of 5,552 cases and constituted a serious threat to industrial peace.

Charges of employer refusal to bargain increased 30 percent over the preceding month, the board said, with 223 such charges as compared with 171.

At the same time the board received 566 charges of unfair labor practices, or two hundred more than in any month since March, 1938.

The 726 collective bargaining election cases were also the most for any month in the board's 11-year history.

The total of 1,628 cases filed in October was second only to the record high of 1,647 for August.

At the end of October the board had 5,552 cases pending, which was 54 per cent above the year ago level.

About 65 percent of the cases received were petitions for elections, while the rest charged employers with various unfair practices.

The most frequent of the latter was the allegation, made in 305 cases, that the employer had discriminated against employees in regard to tenure or membership. The second most numerous charge, made in 222 cases, was refusal to bargain.

Employers filed 11 petitions for election, in their plants, while American Federation of Labor affiliates filed 375 such election petitions and Congress of Industrial Organizations for 402, and unaffiliated unions, 14 cases. In the United States, AFL members were authorized at the rate of 32 a day, 82 percent were not certified, and in only 4 cases was no representation by a specific union. More than 72,000 votes were cast in these cases, with 83 percent of those eligible voting.

With 74 percent of the votes cast in favor of representation by some labor organization, AFL unions won 277 elections, the CIO 248, and unaffiliated unions 30. No union won a majority of votes in 161 elections, 23 percent of the total.

The report of unusual activity for October coincided with publication of a pamphlet issued by NLRB as a guide to operation of the National Labor Relations (Wagner) Act to reduce the cases for the board.

Full use of the law, the "guide" stated, "should lead to the avoidance of many plant grievances, unnecessary appeals to higher authorities and labor organizations could get along better by themselves than through the direction of a third party."

It urged that as many charges as possible be cleared "in an informal manner" to "save the expense and time of formal hearings." It also gave answer to questions of employe representation and hasten the removal and prevention of causes of failure to bargain.

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Shishkin Assures Catholic Meeting AFL Chief 1947 Goal Is Labor Peace

Columbus, Ohio.—Industrial peace is the major objective of the American Federation of Labor during the coming year, Boris Shishkin, AFL economist, assured delegates to the Catholic Conference on Industrial Problems at the session here.

"It is the purpose of the AFL and its affiliates to find and put to the fullest use every available means of direct, peaceful settlement of difference with management without Government intervention," he declared.

"When differences cannot be directly adjusted, we maintain voluntary arbitration of matters remaining in dispute is the court of last resort through which they can go," he said.

"If employers are not willing to surrender their management prerogatives and property rights to outside intervention and decision of agencies which are not responsible for the welfare of their enterprise, then it is up to them to agree to submitting their case to impartial arbitration for final and binding decision.

"The charter of industrial peace can be written by labor and management alone. It can be enforced only by those who work and those who manage. It cannot be brainstormed from Washington or enforced by the courts. The court is powerless to cure the messy chaos of American labor-management. Peace formulated in national conferences held under the glare of klieg lights and to the accompaniment of motion picture cameras. Understanding and responsibility must be built from the ground up in the orderly series of conferences between employers and the workers directly responsible for the workers concerned, must first lay the groundwork of agreement on common problems and common objectives.

"Ninety percent of industrial conflict since V-J Day has been due not to a breakdown of the normal and tested process of collective bargaining, but to far-reaching economic dislocations which go with the transition from war to peace. Our foremost remedy therefore is to foster the solution of the economic problem which the nation confronts.

"The rise in the cost of living of 50 percent since January 1941 cannot be attributed to the wage costs. Evidence is conclusive that the highest price rises had taken place in raw materials, farm products and in distributive trades, where increases in the wage costs have been proportionately smaller.

"Disproportionate increases in price levels have created unbalance which from now on will extend in widening areas of the economy where production has been pushed out of reach of the mass of consumers. A break in business activity in the near future is inevitable unless the purchasing power of wage earners in many segments of our economy is sustained. Increased productivity must support the wage levels in securing stability.

"Labor's chief objective in wage policy should be equity of wages in relation to abnormal living costs already established and to the pattern of wage standards attained in recent years."

GERMAN COAL OUTPUT UP

Hartford, Germany.—The Control Commission here has just announced that for the first time since the end of the war German miners in the British zone passed the 200,000-ton mark in a single day's output of hard coal. Recently they hit 200,671 tons, compared with a daily average for the past few weeks of 198,000 tons.

Soft Coal Dispute Suspended; Issue Up To Supreme Court

Text of Lewis Letter

Washington, D. C.—Text of the message from John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers (AFL), to the union members today, urging the members to return to work, follows:

To all members and all local unions in the bituminous districts of the United States, United Mine Workers of America:

Greetings:

The Administration "yellow-dog" injunction has reached the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court of the United States is a Constitutional Court. Its powers are derived from the Federal Constitution. The Supreme Court is, and we believe will ever be, the protector of American liberties and the right, full privileges of individual citizens. The issues before the Court are fateful for our Republic. It may be presumed that the verdict of the Court when rendered, will affect the life of every citizen. These weighty considerations and the fitting respect due the dignity of that high tribunal imperatively require that, during its period of deliberation, the Court be free from public pressure superinduced by the hysteria and frenzy of an economic crisis. In addition, public necessity requires the quantitative production of coal during such period.

Each member is therefore advised as follows:

All mines in all districts will resume production of coal immediately until 12:00 o'clock midnight, March 31, 1947. Each member in directed to return to work immediately to their usual employment, under the wages, working hours and conditions of employment in existence on and before December 20, 1946. Each mine committee, in cooperation with the officers of each bituminous district, will enforce these employment conditions at each mine. Further advice and instructions will be sent from time to time as authorized by the national policy committee or the responsible and authoritative officers of your organization.

During the working period thus defined, the negotiating committee of the United Mine Workers of America will be willing to negotiate a new wage agreement with the operators covering such matters as may demonstrate their authority so to do, whether it be an alphabetical agency of the United States Government or the associated coal operators. It, as and when such negotiations ensue, your representatives will be in full protection of your interests, within the limitations of the findings of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Let there be no hesitation upon the part of any individual member with respect to the effectuation of the policy herein defined. Complete unity of action is our sole source of strength. We will be as always, act together and await the rendition of legal and economic justice.

I salute you, beside whom I have been privileged to fight.

Sincerely,

JOHN L. LEWIS.

Harrison Regards Higher Production Key to Avert Further U. S. Inflation

Washington, D. C.—Following is presented some highlights of an article prepared by George M. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks and Fifth Vice President of the AFL, for the American Federationist, official monthly publication of the American Federation of Labor, which appears in the December issue:

BY GEORGE M. HARRISON

There is a pressing need for expanding production and increasing consumer purchasing power if we are to avoid a period of boom and bust and danger to our free private enterprise system.

Greater production is essential if we are to avoid further inflation and the destructive consequences. Increased production and increased consumption is the key to real prosperity for all.

To get the needed production, the first step is to remove all governmental barriers. Nine out of 10 of the unfair labor practice cases "never got as far as formal hearings." A like number of all election cases were disposed of in regional offices.

Of more than 7,350,000 employees concerned in 24,090 NLRB elections since 1935, 85 percent have voted. Collective bargaining contract coverage has been won in 8 out of 10 elections.

With the present price increases will cut demand to some extent, the real cure is more production, accompanied by a reduction in prices and greater consumption.

At this critical period we need a larger appreciation of our national interest, our respective rights and mutual responsibilities. The system of private competitive capitalism must continue to be the foundation of our nation's peacetime and wartime economy. We must reestablish the rights of private property and free choice of action. Free collective action of workmen are the strength of our free society. Management of industry must enjoy the interest right to fulfill the responsibility of directing the operations and assuming the responsibility.

American private industry faces the opportunity of a century to produce on a scale never before known or before attained. It is an opportunity to establish an economy of plenty in America based on freedom of action. Opportunity to supply jobs and provide materials for construction of 1,000,000 homes next year, and additional plans for all other construction that may get under way.

The Institute forecast in 300,000 under the construction goal set by Mr. Wyatt. But Mr. Whitlock said realization of the prospectus depended on whether the building trades could keep pace with the production of materials.

"Materials production will continue unabated during the next few months when on-site construction will be slowed down by cold weather," Mr. Whitlock said. "As a result the materials pipelines will fill up rapidly and the shortage of building materials should be no problem by early spring, if not before."

He said veterans and industry groups in cooperation with local officials could keep the housing program moving, and there was no excuse for continuation of "allocations and other time-wasting national limitations on homebuilding construction."

Ample Materials Are Seen For 1,200,000 New Homes

Washington, D. C.—Ample materials will be available for construction next year of 1,200,000 homes, the Building Products Institute reported here.

Lee F. Johnson, executive vice president of the National Public Housing Conference, strongly urged adoption of the Wagner-Ellender-Taft Housing bill, predicted that this program would be carried out because "the American people will insist that it be carried out."

Douglas Whitlock, chairman of the Building Products Institute, expressed confidence that there would be ample materials for construction of 1,200,000 homes next year, and additional plans for all other construction that may get under way.

The Institute forecast in 300,000

Appeal Is Set Down For January 14th In Fine of Union

Washington, D. C.—Brushing aside the routine delays usually attendant upon appeal of a case to the Nation's highest tribunal, the United States Supreme Court agreed to accept a direct appeal in the bituminous coal contract dispute.

Immediately the 400,000 members of the United Mine Workers (AFL) began streaming back to the pits, the freight embargo, rail curtailments, dimouts and package mailing limits were removed, coal shipments to Europe were freed, export permits were dropped and the threat of widespread unemployment due to the stoppage disappeared.

Announcing his decision to suspend the dispute for the present, Mr. Lewis asserted he desired the court to be free to consider the entire issue without undue pressure.

The court announced it would begin its hearing January 14 on the appeal of the union and Mr. Lewis from the $3,500,000 fine imposed upon the UMW and the $10,000 assessed against Mr. Lewis in the United States District Court here.

The major issue is whether or not injunctions can be issued against strikes, in the light of the Norris-La Guardia Act.

There was a wide view that the Supreme Court might have set arguments for the January 14 bid and the strike continued. The court usually hands down decisions on Mondays and a final decision in the case might come as early as January 20.

The Government has contended that it was not under the same restraint as a private employer in obtaining an injunction.

In calling off the strike Mr. Lewis said that the unions agreement with the Government, which is operating the mines under seizure, would run to midnight March 31. He is expected to interject pleadings for a new mandate for an agreement with the private operators which would permit the return to regain their properties.

Pending the Supreme Court ruling in the contempt case appeal, however, the view of the union is unlikely, in his statement to the union members when he called off the strike Mr. Lewis declared that the courts of the union would be "within the limitations of the law of the Supreme Court of the United States."

Shortly before Mr. Lewis' announcement of the suspension of the steppage, his attorneys, Welly K. Hopkins and Joseph A. Padway, chief counsel for the American Federation of Labor, of which the UMW is an affiliate, conferred with Fred M. Vinson, Chief Justice of the United States. Also attending the conference were Attorney General Tom C. Clark and John F. Bonnett, Assistant Attorney General, who has prosecuted the government's case.

JOURNAL OF MINERS HALTS PUBLICATION PENDING APPEAL

Washington, D. C.—Pending final adjudication of the case against the United Mine Workers' Journal, official publication of the union, has suspended publication.

K. C. Adams, press relations director for the union and editor of the Journal, told newsmen that he did not publish the December 1 issue and had no plans to publish another issue until the entire situation is clarified.

He explained that a question had been raised by union counsel with reference to how inclusive the injunction issued against the union in the contempt of court action was to be and that, in view of the difference of interpretation, it was decided it would be best to suspend publication for the time being.

Chicago Pressmen Win $9.50 Raise

Chicago.—Four thousand AFL pressmen and assistants have been granted a pay rise of 36½ cents an hour, amounting to a boost of $9.50 a week, by the Franklin Association, a Chicago printing trades group.

Cyrus L. MacKinnon, business manager of the association, said that under the new rate flat-bed pressmen receive $2.05½ an hour. The scale for press feeders will be $1.84½ an hour.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

SUPPLEMENT

YOUR UNION LABELS, CARDS AND BUTTONS INSURE YOUR JOBS

WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1946 — GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

Protection for Life Is Now Assured To 8,200,000 Workers and Families

(For release Sunday, December 15)

Washington, D. C.—Lifetime guarantees of protection for themselves and their families, under the old-age and survivors' insurance program of the Government, will have been assured to 8,200,000 wage and salary earners in the United States at the end of the current year, Arthur J. Miller, Federal Security Administrator, declared in a year-end report.

The report emphasized that this is the first year that it has been possible for such a large number of workers to be insured permanent status through their employment in jobs covered under the program which began in 1937. It stated in part:

These permanently insured employes in commerce and industry will have at least minimum insurance protection for life, regardless of their future work history, although the benefit amounts of those who are now under age 65 will depend to a great degree upon their future employment in work covered by the Social Security Act.

Work in commerce and industry in 1946 brought old-age and survivors' insurance protection to 1,700,000 additional workers, bringing the total of fully insured persons under the act to approximately 25,800,000 by the end of the year. This number is the net increase during the year after account has been taken of those who died fully insured or lost fully insured status during the year.

Eligibility for future benefits, as well as the benefit amounts of the 27,300,000 fully insured would be in addition to the 8,200,000 full and permanently insured whose status is a great degree on their continued employment in work covered by the Social Security Act.

The total number of persons receiving monthly benefit payments increased during 1946 by 1,700,000—from 1,288,000 on December 31, 1945, to an estimated 1,567,000 at the end of the month. The amount of the monthly payments increased by about $7,560,000 in the same period—from $23,801,000 to an estimated $31,360,000.

A worker is fully insured when he has spent roughly half of his working lifetime after 1936, or at least 10 years, in employment covered by the Social Security Act. And fully insured status is computed only on the basis of the years up to age 65. When he reaches 65 and retires, a fully insured person may qualify himself and his family for monthly benefits, and on his death at any age qualified members of his family may file their claims and receive monthly benefits.

No net increase is seen in the number of workers who will be currently insured at the end of 1946. The total is expected to remain at 7,700,000. (Many of the persons who were currently insured only acquire a fully insured status during the year. Approximately an equivalent number moved into the currently-insured-only group from either the fully insured category or the uninsured class.) Currently insured status is gained by working in covered employment half of the last three years of the worker's life. Only survivors' benefits for children and widows caring for them are payable on the account of a currently insured worker.

Permanent insured status will not maintain a worker's potential level of benefits if his earnings are substantially greater than $50. These benefits will gradually decline with the passage of time, although in no case will an individual benefit or the total of family benefits fall below $10 a month.

Furthermore, permanently insured status does not mean the end of either the employe's or his employer's contributions to the system. These contributions continue as long as a worker stays in covered employment.

Estimates of the number of beneficiaries of all types who will be receiving monthly benefits under the old-age and survivors' insurance program at the end of 1946 are two-thirds greater over 1945 totals in every category.

Shipbuilding War Profits Estimated at 356 Million

Washington, D. C.—Estimated wartime profits of $356,006,812 on invested capital of $974,638,000 was the figure contained in a report of the U. S. Maritime Commission and made public by the House Merchant Marine Committee

The report was furnished to the committee in compliance with its request that earlier information be brought up to date for study during the committee's examination into shipbuilding profits.

While the "estimated profits" do not reflect net profits after allowances for taxes and recoveries through renegotiations, the commission said, "the profits are substantially actual," and "the amounts of disallowances are relatively small compared to earned profits."

Operators of the companies named assailed the original figures as misleading and unfair during committee hearings this summer. They contended that the data did not reflect actual investments and claimed the earnings were unreasonable.

The "estimated profits" reported by the commission range from $58,840,-855 on a $460,000 capital investment by the Kaiser-operated Permanente Metals Corp. to $2,080,000 on a $600 investment by the St. Johns River Shipbuilding Corp. of Florida.

The Maritime Commission's report on other companies than built ships in Government-financed shipyards:

Barrett & Hilp Shipyard, capital investment $3,211,664, estimated profit $974,638.

Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards, Inc., $1,000,000 and $53,966,956.

Bethlehem Steel Corp., $500,000 and $44,423,914.

Consolidated Steel Corp., Ltd., $6,396,011 and $16,445,861.

Delta Shipbuilding Co., Inc., $750,000 and $175,000.

East Coast Shipyards, Inc., $143,800 and $800,000.

H. A. Jones Construction Co., Inc., $2,000,000 and $9,026,388.

Kaiser Co., Inc., $1,000,000 and $45,647,026.

Kaiser Cargo, Inc., $500,000 and $1,515,000.

McCloskey & Co., $750,000 and $1,036,368.

Marinship Corp., $500,000 and $11,671,540.

New England Shipbuilding Corp., $1,028,000 and $11,097,112.

North Carolina Shipbuilding Corp., $3,000,000 and $27,642,628.

Oregon Shipbuilding Corp., $550,000 and $40,950,564.

Permanente Shipbuilding Corp., $600,000 and $3,135,000.

Todd-Houston Shipbuilding Corp., $189,200 and $13,678,303.

Walsh-Kaiser Co., Inc., $300,000 and $3,050,795.

The "up to date" figures are virtually the same as those to which the shipbuilders objected during the committee hearings.

TRUMAN NAMES DEC. 15 AS BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

Washington, D. C.—The Bill of Rights Day was formally proclaimed by President Truman in an appeal to the Nation to observe December 15 as the 155th anniversary of that measure "in solemn remembrance of our liberties and of the recent worldwide battle to protect them from annihilation."

The President's proclamation reminded the Nation that the first 16 amendments, constituting the covenant of the Bill of Rights, "guarantees to the American people freedom of religion, freedom of speech and of the press and freedom to petition for redress of grievances."

The preservation of these "inestimable privileges," Mr. Truman asserted, "can be guaranteed only by courage, determination, and unremitting vigilance."

President Names Shishkin to Group On Civil Rights

Washington, D. C.—Boris Shishkin, AFL economist, was named by President Truman to a vacancy on the 15-man committee to recommend legislation for more effective protection of the civil rights of the American people.

"Inadequate Federal law," the President declared, was hampering the Government's efforts to protect individual liberties and should be strengthened.

Mindful of a breakdown of law enforcement in some communities after the war, with the result that individuals, including ex-servicemen, were "killed, maimed or intimidated," Mr. Truman said:

"It was so after the last war, when organized groups fanned hatred and intolerance, until, at times, mob action struck fear into the hearts of men and women because of their racial origins or religious beliefs."

He said the situation today was that freedom from fear, and the democratic institutions which sustained this freedom, were again under attack. He said that while the preservation of civil liberties is the responsibility of Federal, State and local governments, there is need for new steps to strengthen them in the authority to discharge this primary function of government.

Mr. Truman's action followed a wave of protest from minority groups that the Federal Government take steps to combat a postwar wave of lynchings and racial prejudice.

Electrical Union In Chicago Given Liberal Contract

Chicago.—The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL), Local 134, signed what is considered an Electric Company, Bellwood, what Joseph M. Jacobs, union attorney, declared to be one of the most liberal labor contracts ever enacted in the Chicago area.

The new contract, Jacobs said, covers 1,500 employes of the electrical manufacturing company. The deal was negotiated by Z. A. Tregenza, vice president in charge of labor relations, and Frank Darling, business manager of the local which numbers 14,000 members in Cook county.

Jacobs said that the once in 10 years of contract negotiations with the company ended the union struck while moving continuously toward better pay and working conditions. The new contract provides for a 40-hourly average rate of $1.23 for all workers, and paid holidays, paid vacations ranging from one to four weeks, free hospitalization, surgical and medical fees, and insurance benefits for members of the local now are covered by a free hospitalization plan. They work for 35 firms in Cook county.

AFL Building Union Win Pay Raise In Rockefeller Center

New York City.—A three-year contract, to run to May 1, 1949, has been signed by the Rockefeller Center, Inc., and the AFL unions representing the maintenance employes, the corporation announced.

Hugh S. Robertson, executive manager of the company, signed for management. Signing for the skilled trades unions was Edward McCoy Don, president of the Building and Construction Trades Council of New York; Charles Hanson, vice-president, and James Black, representative in charge of maintenance. David Sullivan, president of the Building Service Employes International Union, and Al-bert Petry, president of Local 32-J of the union, signed for their organizations.

The contract provides wage increases from $5 to $8.40 a week, a $42 minimum for porters and $44 for elevator operators, and a 10 percent cost-of-living bonus if living costs in New York rise 10 percent from the December 15, 1946, figure. It provides there will be no strikes or work stoppages in the period covered.

D. C. Labor Group Present Xmas Recorder to Veterans

Washington, D. C.—Some 1,000 veterans at Walter Reed's Forest Glen section were made happy by the Washington, D. C., Central Labor Union and the Building Trades Council, which presented them with a $1,350 recording machine to send Christmas greetings to their families.

AFL President William Green made the formal presentation to the patients, mostly amputees, with the declaration that:

"This is a small token of appreciation from the wage earners of the Nation's Capital to the boys who fought for America's freedom."

Brig. Gen. George C. Beach, commanding general of the Army Medical Center, accepted the gift on behalf of the veterans, and said:

"I accept this gift for the veterans who are patients here and desire to express their deep appreciation.

The mothers, fathers, wives and sweethearts of these boys will be forever grateful to the labor organizations which have made it possible for them to receive these recordings of their Christmas messages."

Frank J. Coleman, secretary of the Central Labor Union, who assisted in the distribution of envelopes containing the five-dollar bills to each patient, announced it was also the plan of his group to present a recorder and 2,500 record discs to veterans at Mt. Alto Hospital here, in addition to the $5 bills.

The recording machine was received by Mrs. Frances Paperte, director of the occupational therapy department of Walter Reed Hospital, under whose direction three members of the Walter Reed band played an original Christmas theme while the recordings were being made.

Mrs. Paperte gave the patients a choice of two written messages, also composed by her, either to be sung or spoken to the musical accompaniment. They were:

"Give us peace, dear Lord, we pray; bless my parents on this day."

"Merry Christmas, dear parents, all blessings so true. Every wish of my heart is to be there with you."

If they wished, the patients could send their own greetings. Several did.

As director of music therapy at the hospital, Mrs. Paperte has developed the use of music as an aid to medical treatment of patients.

Federal Survey of Mining Towns Supports Lewis' Position on Health

Chicago.—John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers (AFL), has a case" regarding his charges of poor health conditions in some mining communities, Rear Admiral Joel T. Boone, director of the Government's health survey in mining communities, declared in an address here.

Speaking before the closing session of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association, Admiral Boone said 40 other Naval officers associated with him in the survey found quite "apparent unhealthiness" in the small mining areas in the Nation's coal mining regions and that they are "deeply disturbing."

The study was undertaken under an agreement between Mr. Lewis and Interior Secretary J. A. Krug providing Government seizure of the mines last spring. Copies of the admiral's address, delivered at a closed session, were furnished to the press later.

In blunt terms, the admiral declared it was "obvious" that "sub-health standards" existed also in other industries, but that "elementary control measures were completely lacking" in many coal mining areas.

At a press conference, he said his survey was not yet completed, but that, on the basis of seven months' study, he could conclude that medical facilities provided by mine operators ranged from "very fine" to completely neglectful.

In the speech, he said there were some exceptions, but that it was "a general rule (that) coal mining communities, particularly in the more densely populated and heavily productive coal areas, are deficient in such essential measures as adequate water supply control, proper disposal of sewage and garbage, reasonable safeguards against contamination, protection in food and milk handling and insect and rodent control measures."

"Although a number of coal mining communities, owned and operated by the larger coal companies, these companies seem to be as sanitary and healthful as our better incorporated cities, they are too few in number and stand out as exceptions to the rule," he said.

Boone said in his visits to coal communities in 31 States he had learned that except for school health programs of immunization, physicians have "shown very little interest in public health work and preventive medicine."

"These same doctors . . . have not even as a rule undertaken their responsibilities of enlightened citizens and . . . have withdrawn from active into their work and their private practice."

Boone told the press conference that miners in the Appalachian area, where 70 percent of the Nation's coal is mined, "probably lived under more adverse conditions than in any other mining area."

Economic Behavior Plan Asks Early End of Industrial War

Washington, D. C.—Formation of "a new code of economic group behavior" and an early end to "blind industrial warfare," was urged here in a report by the National Planning Association.

The association's agriculture, business and labor committees outlined this code following a meeting of their board of trustees and functional committee.

The declaration, approved by the trustees of the nonprofit, nonpolitical organization, did not go into proposals for legislative action on the labor management question but emphasized the necessity for increased mutual respect and cooperation to remove the danger of "group conflict."

"The kind of peace we want," the planners stated, "is a peace charged with the dignity of men. We do not want Government to go beyond the establishment of the rules of the game.

"We seek to maximize our settlement of industrial disputes as men-be s of a free society and to minimize Government interference or coercion."

The basis for a new code of "economic group behavior" was outlined in separate reports of the business, labor and agricultural committees, incorporated in the declaration.

The union leader should promote the well-being of the business as well as that of the employes and be prepared to encourage employer and employe practices which will increase productivity and improve the competitive position of the company.

The labor representative declared further that "contracts mutually entered into should be mutually binding" and "both parties should seek to administer the contract in a spirit of cooperative understanding of its effects on each other, rather than on a basis of legalistic hair-splitting.

"Any management or any union which conceives its responsibilities toward a segment of society to extend no further than its own narrow interests is an anachronism and has lost its social usefulness," the planners asserted.

Labor Parley Supports AFL's Appeal For Expanded Conciliation Force

Washington, D. C.—Delegates to the 12th National Conference on Labor Legislation, meeting here, were sharply condemnatory of Government efforts to seek understandings through "coercive" measures, and agreed that the best key to understanding rests in an expanded Conciliation Service.

One of many resolutions adopted by the group, and authorized by members of the AFL delegation, declared:

BE IT RESOLVED that national efforts to aid in the establishment of peaceful labor-management relations be limited to voluntary mediation and conciliation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Government continue to discharge its responsibility for mediation and conciliation of disputes through the U. S. Conciliation Service within the Department of Labor and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to prevent financial losses to industry, labor and the country resulting from work stoppages, that the staff of the Conciliation Service be strengthened and enlarged and that adequate appropriation be made available for this purpose.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Government should avoid any attempt to revive the National War Labor Board through any system of compulsory arbitration or labor courts.

10 Specific Issues Raised By Miners In High Court Plea

35,000,000 Under Federal Program Of Social Security

Washington, D. C.—The Federal Security Agency has announced that the end of this year will find approximately 35,500,000 wage and salary earners fully insured under the Social Security Act. The social security program will have been in operation 10 years at the close of 1946.

Approximately 8,200,000 workers of the total covered by the act will have attained lifetime protection for themselves and their families by the end of the year under the old-age and survivors insurance program. The act provides that employes spend 10 years in an industry or commerce before they become permanently insured.

According to Watson B. Miller, director of the FSA, 1,700,000 additional workers became eligible for old-age and survivors insurance in 1946.

Workers with 10 years employment under the program will have at least minimum protection regardless of their future work history, he said.

House Group Raps 'Loose' Predictions Of New Depression

Washington, D. C.—"Loose talk" of a business depression was strongly assailed in a formal report by the Special House Committee on postwar Economic Policy and Planning which urged the AFL's plea for "teamwork" on the part of both labor and management to solve industrial problems.

Cautioning against "punitive" labor legislation, the group declared that the Nation has the greatest buying power and built-up demand for consumer products that has ever been known and that "loose talk of depressions is unjustified and serves no good purpose."

"There is nothing wrong with the economy that hard work and production will not cure," the report asserted.

AFL NASHVILLE TEAMSTERS SCORE NOTABLE GAINS

Nashville, Tenn.—Last month the Sales Division of the Southern Conference of Teamsters won increases by 170 new members, covering all employes of the Nashville Pure Milk Co. The closed shop contract was negotiated under the banner of the Teamsters' Local Union, Local 327.

The agreement covers both inside and outside employes and carries a wage boost of 17 percent for the plant workers, while retail and wholesale drivers gained $9 and $9 a week respectively. Employes will receive one week's paid vacation after one year and two weeks after five years employment. Seniority will prevail according to classification on a departmental basis and each employe will receive a regular assigned day off each week, while inside workers will receive time and one-half if worked on their assigned day off. Retroactive pay was granted all drivers, salesmen and mechanics to October 1 and inside workers to November 1.

N. Y. FEDERATION DECRIES STEADY TEACHER LOSSES

New York City.—In an open letter to Governor Dewey, the State Federation of Labor has requested that a five-point program be inaugurated, including a higher salary for teachers in order to advance the State's educational system. The letter stated that the steady exodus of trained teachers from the schools is one of the most problems confronting the State.

The letter asked that aid for education be increased "to make possible increases to cover needed educational expansion, and especially to pay salaries equal to the rise in cost of living and to raise salaries where they have not been commensurate with the services rendered." It specifically asked that a State university be established to meet the G.I. overflow and, also, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin.

VA NURSES WIN BATTLE

Washington, D. C.—The Veterans Administration is the loser in a "battle of buttons" to a group of determined women. Losing in the argument, the VA swept aside a regulation that had been in effect for 20 years and granted to VA nurses the right to wear the official cap of their particular school of nursing, or the standard VA cap without the varying widths of black velvet ribbon. The new regulation goes into effect on January 1, 1947.

Union Counsel Seeks Broad Examination of Constitutional Aspects

Washington, D. C.—Counsel for the United Mine Workers of America (AFL) has asked the United States Supreme Court for a broad consideration of the union's appeal from a contempt of court fine of $3.500,000 as well as the personal fine of $10,-000 against UMW President John L. Lewis.

They cited 10 specific questions on which they expressed hope for review.

The petition proposed that the Nation's highest tribunal examine the applicability of the First, Thirteenth, Fifth and Eighth Amendments to the Constitution, in the light of the decision in which Federal Justice T. Alan Goldsborough imposed the fines for contempt.

Attorney General Tom C. Clark requested the Supreme Court earlier to narrow the scope of its consideration to the question of whether Justice Goldsborough had jurisdiction to issue a restraining order against the union work stoppage and impose the fines.

The 10 questions raised by union counsel were:

1. Had the District Court have jurisdiction, under the First and Thirteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, to issue the temporary restraining order of Nov. 18, 1946?

2. Did the District Court have jurisdiction or authority, under the Act of March 23, 1932, Ch. 9 (47 Stat. 70, 29 U. S. C. 101-115), and under the Act of Oct. 15, 1914, Ch. 323, Sec. 20 (38 Stat. 738, 29 U. S. C. 52), to issue the temporary restraining order of Nov. 18, 1946?

3. Did the District Court have jurisdiction to extend the ex parte temporary restraining order of Nov. 18, 1946, without the consent of the defendants below?

4. Is a temporary restraining order, issued without jurisdiction or authority, a nullity which can be disregarded with impunity? Assuming it can be, was the evidence adduced and mandatory in these cases to have a trial by jury?

5. Was the rule to show cause in this case, supported as it was by an affidavit based on hearsay, belief and information, sufficient to constitute the proceeding as being in criminal contempt, and not being an independent proceeding sufficient to maintain a judgment in criminal contempt?

6. Were the status and interest of respondents in this case such as to permit a judgment in civil contempt?

7. Did the court below err in admitting prejudicial and irrelevant testimony during the trial on the rule to show cause?

8. Can petitioner, United States Workers of America, an unincorporated association, be held responsible for unlawful, wrongful and criminal acts of any individual officer, member or agency in the absence of clear proof of actual participation in or actual authorization of such acts, or ratification of such acts after actual knowledge thereof?

9. Are the fines imposed on petitioners excessive and are they repugnant to the Fifth and Eighth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

10. May civil and criminal contempts be tried simultaneously under a single rule to show cause?

Special House Unit Endorses Budget Cut to 30 Billion

Washington, D. C.—Strong endorsement of a Federal budget of $30,000,000,000, or more than $41,500,000,000 which should be urged by the Truman Administration and approved by Congress, was voted by the House Post-war Planning Committee in an executive session as a positive guide to economic planning.

The figure of $30,000,000,000 compares with the $41,500,000,000 budget for the current fiscal year, and could be attained, the committee said, "without interfering with national defense or other normal functions of the Government."

Such a reduction in Government costs, the group pointed out, would result in creation of a substantial surplus which could be applied toward debt reduction and tax cuts.

Officials' Refusal to Talk Blamed for Public Strikes

Chicago.—The major cause of strikes of public employes has been the refusal of public officials to sit down and negotiate with the workers, Arnold S. Zander, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes (AFL) declared in an address before the press seminar of the Public Administration Clearing House, in session here.

Strikes in the field of public service, he said, would disappear if public officials would recognize unions, negotiate with them in good faith, and act promptly on grievances.

Prof. William C. Reavis of the University of Chicago agreed with Mr. Zander that there would be better relations and fewer strikes if school boards would sit down with teachers and discuss salary problems instead of rejecting demands arbitrarily. He said that teachers' salaries should be increased because teachers cannot be economically independent under the present price level on what was paid in the past, and because the quality of teaching is deteriorating, due to inadequate pay, rapid turnover and the high cost of living.

Both Zander and Prof. Reavis said that Federal and State Governments will have to aid the cities in meeting the additional costs of public education, he added.

Herman Pope, executive director of the Public Administration Service, also said a solution in the general public interest could be found in the adoption of equitable pay plans and the participation of employes in gathering and analyzing information used in setting them up. He said such plans should provide for the recognition of unions, checking of living costs, and cost-of-living fluctuations and minimum wages.

Leonard D. Russell, director of the American Public Welfare Association, said that workers generate from social insurance, especially in the extension of unemployment compensation and old-age and survivors' insurance, to offset the effects of any business recession that may come next year. Increased wages have been achieved in the problems of medical care for the indigent.

ARCHITECTS PLAN DINNER

New York City.—A tenth anniversary dinner invitation has been received from Frank Whaley, chairman of the dinner committee of Local 56, Architectural and Engineering Guild, of the International Federation of Technical Engineers', Architects' and Draftsmen's Unions (AFL). The dinner is scheduled for February 1.

TRUCKERS GRANTED RAISES

Macon, Ga.—An agreement has been signed between Teamsters Union Local 728 and the Macon Linen Supply Co. here. All truck drivers receive increased wages by the scheme 16 to 25 percent, and many other outdoor workers believe through collective bargaining not heretofore enjoyed by the employes under the Teamsters' jurisdiction.